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TO	Examiner John TERESINSKI	6/9/04
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	NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 4	CONFIRM FAX: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
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MESSAGE

Please see the attached claim amendments as we discussed.

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U.S. Patent Application No. 10/092,993
Attorney Docket No. 220445US

Proposed Claim Amendments

Claim 1 (currently amended): A maximum power point tracking method that ~~supplies for use in a system in which power~~ [[of]] from a direct-current power source, ~~having which has~~ a bow-shaped current-voltage characteristic, is supplied to a load via a switching converter, ~~wherein the method comprising:~~

performing low frequency, minute modulation of an output voltage of the direct-current power source;

detecting an output current value of said ~~the~~ direct-current power source, ~~which undergoes low frequency, minute modulation of input voltage to the switching converter,~~ is detected in a circuit ~~with~~ after performing the modulation, the circuit being configured to perform an amplification factor switching function that switches ~~[[the]] an~~ amplification factor of the circuit between definite magnitudes ~~synchronizing in~~ synchronization with said ~~the performed~~ modulation~~[[,]] to produce an output; and~~

controlling said switching converter ~~is controlled~~ using a signal obtained in a discriminator circuit by demodulating ~~the~~ output of ~~[[this]] the discriminator~~ circuit ~~synchronizing in synchronization~~ with said ~~the performed~~ modulation.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The maximum power point tracking method of claim 1, ~~that limits~~ further comprising:

limiting the input voltage of the switching converter to a predetermined range.

Claim 3 (original): The maximum power point tracking method of claim 1, wherein said direct current power source includes at least one of a solar cell, a direct-

current power source that generates power using wind power, and a direct-current power source that generates power using wave power.

Claim 4 (original): The maximum power point tracking method of claim 2, wherein said direct-current power source includes at least one of a solar cell, a direct-current power source that generates power using wind power, and a direct-current power source that generates power using wave power.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A maximum power point tracking device that supplies power of a direct-current power source, which has a bow-shaped current-voltage characteristic, to a load ~~via a switching converter~~, said maximum power point tracking device comprising:

(1) a first circuit for performing configured to perform low-frequency, minute modulation ~~that by alternately switches input~~ switching an output voltage of the ~~switching converter~~ direct-current power source between two voltage values;

(2) a second circuit that detects configured to detect an output current value of said the direct-current power source and ~~has to perform~~ an amplification factor switching function that switches ~~[[the]]~~ an amplification factor of the second circuit between definite magnitudes ~~synchronizing in~~ synchronization with the modulation ~~in~~ (1)-above performed by the first circuit;

(3) a ~~discriminator~~ third circuit for obtaining configured to obtain a component ~~synchronized of an output of the second circuit in~~ synchronization with the modulation ~~in~~ (1) performed by the first circuit of output of the circuit in (2); and

(4) a fourth circuit that uses configured to use an output of the third circuit in (3) to generate a signal that is ~~also input~~ transmitted to a switching converter control circuit.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The maximum power point tracking device of claim [[4]] 5, further comprising [[a]] the switching converter control circuit that limits, which is configured to limit the input voltage of the switching converter to a predetermined range.

Claim 7 (original): The maximum power point tracking device of claim 5, wherein the direct current power source is at least one of a solar cell, a direct-current power source that generates power using wind power, and a direct-current power source that generates power using wave power.

Claim 8 (original): The maximum power point tracking device of claim 6, wherein the direct current power source is at least one of a solar cell, a direct-current power source that generates power using wind power, and a direct-current power source that generates power using wave power.

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